TRAVANCORE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Friday, the 3rd August, 1923.

(OFFICIAL REPORT.)

The Council met in the Victoria Jubilee Town Hall, Trivandrum, at Eleven Thirty-five of the Clock, with the President in the Chair.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[*Order made by the President under Standing Order No. 12*—

(1) Printed copies of the questions and answers to be put and given at a meeting of the Council shall be placed on the Council table 15 minutes before the President takes his seat.

(2) The questions shall be put and answered in the following manner:—

The Secretary shall call the name of each interpellator in serial order, specify the serial number of his questions and make a sufficient pause to allow him a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place, if he is desirous of asking a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.]

Rural Sanitation and Medical Relief.

34. MR. T. M. CHIDAMBARATANU PILLAI (*Tovala* cum *Kalkulam*): Will the Government be pleased to state what steps are now being taken by the Sanitary Department for the improvement of the health of the people living in the mofussil and for the prevention of epidemics?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The member is referred to Chapter VI of the Administration Reports of 1097 and previous years.

Superintendent, Vaccine Depôt.

35. MR. T. M. CHIDAMBARATANU PILLAI (*Tovala* cum *Kalkulam*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) who was appointed in the place of Mr. Chandy, Superintendent, Vaccine Depôt, when he was on other duty;

(*b*) whether that substitute was one who has passed any medical test; and

(*c*) if not, what the reasons were for entrusting the important work of preparing vaccine lymph to one who has no medical qualification?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*):

(*a*) Mr. Nagaraja Rao, Sanitary Circle Officer, was put in charge of the Vaccine Depôt without prejudice to his own duties as Assistant in the Depôt, when Mr. Chandy was appointed acting Sanitary Commissioner *vice* Mr. Krishnamurti Aiyar, absent on privilege leave.

(*b*) No.

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[Mr. R. Krishna Pillai.]

(*c*) Mr. Nagaraja Rao has been an Assistant in the Vaccine Depôt. He has passed the English School Leaving Certificate Examination, Madras, the Government Technical Examinations in Hygiene and Physiology (Intermediate) and Minor Sanitary Engineering (Intermediate), and Vaccination. He is, in the opinion of the Sanitary Commissioner, competent to hold charge of the Depôt temporarily.

Establishment of a new Match Factory.

36. MR. T. M. CHIDAMBARATANU PILLAI (*Tovala* cum *Kalkulam*): (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether permission has been given for the establishment of a match factory in central Travancore, and, if so, whether any agreement has been entered into with the Government?

(*b*) If any agreement has been entered into, will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a copy of the same?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*):

(*a*) The answer is in the negative.

(*b*) The question does not arise.

Excise Buildings at Arukutty

37. MR. M. R. MADHAVA VARIAR (*Chengannur* cum *Pattanamtitta*): Will the Government be pleased to furnish information on the following points:—

(*a*) when the construction of the excise buildings at Arukutty was started;

(*b*) whether the Chief Engineer has received any report regarding the bad work done in those buildings, and if so, when;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that, towards the close of 1097, the then Executive Engineer, Mr. M. P. Mani reported to the Chief Engineer that the concrete laid for the foundation was only 3 inches to 6 inches thick, instead of 18 inches, as provided for in the estimate, and that the whole quantity as per the estimate was billed for and paid, causing thereby a loss of Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 6,000;

(*d*) whether any enquiry was held in the matter so far by the Chief Engineer;

(*e*) who is responsible for the loss;

(*f*) whether the Section Officer was given a promotion after the report against him was received by the Chief Engineer; and

(*g*) whether the Government will be pleased to enquire into this matter?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*):

(*a*) Government have no information.

(*b*) Yes; in July, 1922.

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